

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for anodizing an annular cylindrical surface of a component comprising the steps of:
 - placing the component in a container having first and second seal members;
 - sealing an annular surface of the component to be anodized using the first and second seal members to thereby form a reaction chamber bounded by the annular surface, the seal members and an inner surface of the container;
 - supplying a reaction medium to the reaction chamber through a supply passage formed in the container to thereby anodize the annular cylindrical surface.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of supplying the reaction medium includes continuously circulating reaction medium through the reaction chamber.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of removing the reaction medium from the reaction chamber through a drain passage formed in the container.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the steps of removing and supplying are conducted simultaneously to thereby circulate the reaction medium through the reaction chamber.
5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising providing a passage plate in the container, the plate having the supply and drain passages, and wherein the component extends through an opening in the passage plate.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the supply passage and the drain passage are formed on opposite faces of the passage plate.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of energizing the passage plate and the component to thereby form anodization electrodes.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein during the step of energizing the passage plate a portion of the passage plate adjacent the reaction chamber remains deenergized.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the supply and drain passages each comprise a plurality of supply and drain grooves, respectively.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the supply and drain grooves are arranged alternately around the opening of the passage plate.

11. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the reaction fluid is supplied into the reaction chamber and removed from the reaction chamber at different angles relative to the surface of the component.

12. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein, the supply and drain passages are formed on an inner section of the passage plate to direct and drain the reaction medium from the reaction chamber at an angle of 90 degrees with respect to a line tangent to the component.

Claims 13-30 (Canceled)

31. (New) A method for anodizing a predetermined surface of a component comprising the steps of:

placing the component in a container having first and second seal members;
sealing a predetermined surface of the component to be anodized using the first and second seal members to thereby form a reaction chamber bounded by the surface, the seal members and an inner surface of the container;

supplying a reaction medium to the reaction chamber through a supply passage formed in the container to thereby anodize the predetermined surface of the component.